more particularly in bilious cases. It is given for this purpose in decoction, in the small dose of half an ounce or less at a time, and frequently repeated.

The most common form of exhibiting snakeroot is in infusion, for which purpose half an ounce may be steeped in a pint of boiling water for two hours, in a covered vessel. Of this infusion an ounce or two may be taken every three or four hours. Decoction is a less proper mode of preparing this plant, as it tends to dissipate the volatile parts, a portion of which is detained in a state of mixture by the infusion. Sometimes the powder is given in doses of from ten to thirty grains. A tincture of snakeroot is made by digesting an ounce of the root in a pound or somewhat less of proof spirit. The compound tincture of bark, commonly called Huxham's tincture, contains Serpentaria as one of its ingredients.

BOTANICAL REFERENCES.

Aristolochia serpentaria, Linn. *Sp. pl.*—Walter, *Flor. Car.* 223.—Woodville, ii. 291. *t.* 106.—Michaux, ii. 162.—Pursh, ii. 596.—Pistolochia sive Serpentaria Virginiana, &c.—Plukenet, *t.* 148. *f.* 5.—Catesby, *Car.* i. 29.

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PLATE XLIX.

Fig. 1. *Aristolochia serpentaria with the flower beginning to expand.*
Fig. 2. *Side view of the flower expanded.*
Fig. 3. *Front of ditto.*
Fig. 4. *Longitudinal section of the flower.*
Fig. 5. *Style, anthers, and stigma magnified.*
Fig. 6. *Fruit.*

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